

**JOINT STAFF/TAC REPORT  
FALL FACT SHEET NO. 2  
Columbia River Compact  
August 17, 2001**

<b>PURPOSE:</b>	Review salmon, steelhead, and sturgeon stock status and consider treaty Indian and non-Indian fishing options.
<b>TAC:</b>	The Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) reviewed the fall Compact report.

## Management Guidelines

### *Endangered Species Act*

<i>Listed Salmon and Steelhead of the Columbia Basin Present During August 1-December 31</i>		
Species - <i>ESU</i>	Designation	Effective Date
<b><u>Federally Listed Species</u></b>		
<b><u>Chinook</u></b>		
Snake River Fall	Threatened	May 22, 1992
Lower Columbia R. Spring/Fall	Threatened	May 24, 1999
<b><u>Chum</u></b>		
Columbia River	Threatened	May 24, 1999
<b><u>Steelhead</u></b>		
Snake River	Threatened	October 17, 1997
Upper Columbia River	Endangered	October 17, 1997
Middle Columbia River	Threatened	May 24, 1999
Lower Columbia River	Threatened	May 18, 1998
<b><u>Cutthroat Trout</u></b>		
Southwest Washington	Proposed Threatened	Decision due October 5, 2000
<b><u>Oregon State Listed Species</u></b>		
<b><u>Coho</u></b>		
Lower Columbia	Endangered	July 16, 1999

- Coho salmon in the lower Columbia ESU are currently under review for listing under the Federal ESA.
- A Biological Opinion concerning fall fisheries in the Columbia River was signed on August 10, 2001.

### *2001 Management Agreement*

- The states and tribes reached an agreement for management of 2001 fall fisheries. The 2001 Management Agreement allocates the 31.29% URB harvest rate 8.25% to non-Indian fisheries and 23.04% to treaty Indian fisheries.

- Based on results of the North of Falcon negotiation process the non-Indian impact rate of 8.25% is allocated 4.90% for sport fisheries and 3.35% for commercial fisheries. Fall chinook catch expectations associated with these impact levels are 19,300 sport catch and 17,200 commercial catch.
- Treaty fall fisheries for 2001 will be managed according to the Fall Season Management Agreement to not exceed a 23.04% impact rate on URB fall chinook and 15% on wild Group B Index steelhead.
- Salmon management guidelines are more fully outlined on page 22 of the "Joint Staff Report Concerning the 2001 In-River Commercial Harvest of Columbia River Fall Chinook Salmon, Summer Steelhead, Coho Salmon, and Sturgeon".

### ***Lower Columbia River Sturgeon Allocation***

- Sturgeon fisheries between the Columbia River mouth and Bonneville Dam during 2000-2002 are guided by a Sturgeon Fishery Management Agreement signed by the ODFW and WDFW Directors in March 2000.

<b><i>Major Tenets of the Joint State Agreement on 2000-2002 Columbia River Sturgeon Fishery Management</i></b>	
✓	Management based on optimum sustained yield approach.
✓	Absent significant update, annual harvestable number is 50,000.
✓	Harvestable number may be adjusted if there is a significant population update resulting from new biological information, new analytical/theoretical approach, or a substantial change in harvest impacts outside of the Columbia Basin.
✓	Allocates white sturgeon harvestable number 80% sport (40,000) and 20% commercial (10,000).
✓	Sport and commercial seasons will be modified as necessary to ensure that average catch during the three-year period (2000-2002) does not exceed fishery specific harvestable number.
✓	Commercial target seasons are allowed as necessary to access allocation and maximize economic benefit consistent with conservation objectives for other species.
✓	Green sturgeon may be taken during white sturgeon commercial seasons but green sturgeon-only commercial seasons are not allowed and green sturgeon catch rate is not to exceed historical rates.
✓	Commercial size limits are 48"-60" for white sturgeon and 48"-66" for green sturgeon.
✓	Recreational size limit for white and green sturgeon is 42"-60" with one fish daily limit, ten fish annual (per calendar year) limit, and barbless hooks required.

- Recent sturgeon population estimates have not increased as expected which may result in a reduced white sturgeon harvestable number in the near future.
- Based on these recent population trends the Joint Staff is requiring that overages from 2000 fisheries be applied to 2001 fisheries which results in a new white sturgeon catch limits of 39,500 for sport fisheries and 9,100 for commercial fisheries in 2001.
- Select Area fisheries will be managed as target salmon fisheries through the use of time, area, and gear restrictions. Gear restrictions will primarily consist of mesh size restrictions that will be phased in during the next few years to limit economic impact on participating fishers.

### ***Zone 6 Sturgeon Allocation***

- The Sturgeon Management Task Force (SMTF) develops management goals and guidelines for both treaty Indian and non-Indian fisheries in the Zone 6 management area based on current stock assessment data.
- The goals and catch guidelines for 2001 are the same as those adopted for 1998 – 2000 fisheries, except for The Dalles Pool where the midpoint of the range used for 2000 was adopted for 2001.
- Recreational catch guidelines are: 1,520 for Bonneville Pool; 700 The Dalles Pool; and 560 for John Day Pool.
- Treaty Indian commercial catch guidelines are 1,300 for Bonneville Pool; 1,100 for the Dalles Pool; and 1,160 for John Day Pool.
- The SMTF expects the treaty Indian subsistence sturgeon catch to be 300 fish or less.

## **Water Conditions**

### ***Flow Updates***

- Flows have been unusually low this summer with flow measured at Bonneville Dam exceeding 100 kcfs only twice during the time period of July 5-August 6.
- Since August 6 flows remain low, but have increased with flows measured at Bonneville Dam ranging between 100 kcfs and 126 kcfs.

### ***Temperature Updates***

- Water temperatures, as measured at Bonneville Dam, typically increase rapidly through the month of July to a peak during the first half of August. Subsequently temperatures typically decline slowly during the last half of August and early September.
- Water temperatures have been below recent year averages during the month of July with temperature measured at Bonneville Dam not exceeding 69° for the month.
- Water temperatures at Bonneville Dam remained stable at 68°F during the first seven days of August and increased to 70°F by August 9.
- Since August 9 water temperatures at Bonneville Dam have remained stable at 70°F.

## Stock Status

### *Spring/Summer Updates*

<i>Preseason Forecasts and Preliminary Returns of Spring Chinook, Summer Chinook, and Sockeye Salmon Returning to the Columbia River in 2001</i>			
<b>Stock</b>	<b>Preseason Forecast</b>	<b>Preliminary 2001 Return</b>	<b>Comments</b>
<b>Spring Chinook</b>			
Willamette	61,000	80,000	Largest since 1991.
Sandy	4,000	--	1,927 adults passed Marmot Dam through 8/14.
Cowlitz	1,200	1,500	Similar to recent 5-year average. Poor return.
Kalama	1,000	1,500	Similar to 2000. Above recent average.
Lewis	2,800	3,200	Largest return since 1995.
Upriver	364,600	417,000	Largest return on record.
Snake River Wild	39,300	>39,300	Over five times recent average.
Upper Columbia Wild	6,300	>6,300	Over three times recent average.
<b>Summer Chinook</b>			
Upriver	24,500	76,200	Largest return since 1969.
Snake River Wild	3,100	NA	Likely greater than forecast.
<b>Sockeye</b>			
Upriver	78,105	116,700	Largest since 1987.
Wenatchee	37,000	39,700	Above recent average.
Okanogan	41,000	77,000	Largest since 1984.
Snake River	105	NA	36 sockeye counted at LWG

**Summary of Columbia River Salmon and Steelhead Returns in 2000 and Forecasts For 2001. <sup>1/</sup>**

<b>Species, stock</b>	<b>2000 Run<sup>1</sup></b>	<b>2001 Forecast<sup>1</sup></b>	<b>Comments</b>
<b>Fall Chinook</b>	<b>253,300</b>	<b>292,300</b>	<b>Larger than recent 10-yr. average</b>
Upriver bright (URB)	155,900	132,700	Similar to recent 10-year average
Snake River wild (SRW)	1,977	7,600	Similar to recent 10-yr. average
Mid-Columbia bright (MCB)	35,200	45,300	Larger than recent 10-yr. average
Bonneville upriver bright (BUB)	10,600	17,700	
Pool upriver bright (PUB)	24,600	25,200	
Bonneville pool hatchery (BPH)	20,100	61,900	Largest since 1982
Lower river hatchery (LRH)	27,000	30,500	2 <sup>nd</sup> smallest on record
Lower river wild (LRW)	10,200	18,500	Largest since 1991
Lower river bright (LRB)	1,500	2,400	Formerly component of BUB stock
Select area bright (SAB)	3,400	3,400	Below recent 5-yr. average
<b>Upriver Summer Steelhead</b>	<b>274,200</b>	<b>254,000</b>	<b>Larger than recent 10-yr. average</b>
Skamania index (April 1 - June 30)	16,600	12,000	Similar to recent 5-yr. average
A-run index (length <78cm)	216,700	201,300	Larger than recent 10-year average
A-run index wild (length <78cm)	63,600	49,000	3 <sup>rd</sup> largest since 1991
B-run index (length ≥78cm)	40,900	36,000	Above recent 5-yr. average
B-run index wild (length ≥78cm)	8,400	8,900	2 <sup>nd</sup> largest since 1989
<b>Coho</b>	<b>550,700</b>	<b>1,071,200</b>	<b>Largest since 1991</b>
Early stock	326,200	760,500	Largest on record
Late stock	224,500	310,700	Largest since 1991

<sup>1</sup> Columbia River mouth return, except summer steelhead is Bonneville Dam return.

### **Summer Steelhead**

- A total of 28,725 summer steelhead passed Bonneville Dam during April 1 - June 30 (Skamania index) which was the largest count on record (since 1960) and more than doubled the recent 5-year average of 11,200.
- The Skamania index return was well above the preseason forecast of 12,000, which included 9,000 hatchery fish and 3,000 wild fish.
- Based on sampling data at Bonneville Dam the Skamania index return of 28,725 was comprised of 20,733 (72%) hatchery fish and 7,952 (28%) wild fish.

<b>Summer Steelhead Dam Counts</b>						
		August 15	Cumulative Total Through August 15			
		Daily	2001	2000	1999	1998
Bonneville	Skamania Index	--	28,700	16,600	7,200	9,400
	Group A Index	5,104	339,671	124,700	96,300	63,100
	Group B Index	84	5,899	2,600	1,500	1,200
	Total	5,188	374,270	143,900	105,000	73,700
The Dalles		2,280	168,449	55,200	54,100	14,300
John Day		784	90,950	35,000	37,500	13,800
McNary		1,106	86,246	26,000	19,400	8,800
Ice Harbor		1,299	39,689	11,800	8,800	4,600
Lower Granite		13	11,683	4,900	2,700	1,500
Priest Rapids		500	11,173	3,800	1,700	1,200

- To date 45% of the steelhead passing Bonneville Dam have passed The Dalles Dam, which is 129% of the recent 10-year average of 35%.
- Summer steelhead passage since July 1 is tracking at record high levels. Based on the recent 10-year average 49% of the Group A index and 8% of the Group B index runs pass Bonneville Dam prior to August 16.
- Returns of wild summer steelhead have been strong to date with wild fish representing 35%-47% of summer steelhead passing Bonneville Dam during July. Wild summer steelhead abundance typically peaks in late July with 67% of the wild Group A index and 17% of the wild Group B index fish passing Bonneville Dam prior to August 16.
- Wild fish have represented 19-28% of the summer steelhead passing Bonneville Dam during August and 32% of the Bonneville passage since July 1.
- Since July 1 summer steelhead counts at Bonneville Dam have been comprised of 98% Group A index fish and 2% Group B index fish. Abundance of Group B index steelhead typically peaks in September.

<i>Upriver Summer Steelhead Returns to Bonneville Dam</i>										
Year	Group A Index (<78 cm)					Group B Index (>=78 cm)				
	Number Wild	%	Number Hatchery	%	Total	Number Wild	%	Number Hatchery	%	Total
1984	52,500	27	143,200	73	195,700	13,800	14	84,200	86	98,000
1985	51,900	18	229,600	82	281,500	13,000	32	27,900	68	40,900
1986	56,600	20	230,900	80	287,500	10,000	16	54,000	84	64,000
1987	106,700	45	131,600	55	238,300	14,000	31	31,000	69	45,000
1988	64,300	37	108,800	63	173,100	17,700	22	63,900	78	81,600
1989	57,500	30	135,600	70	193,100	12,400	16	65,200	84	77,600
1990	27,100	23	88,500	77	115,600	8,800	19	38,400	81	47,200
1991	60,300	26	173,800	74	234,100	6,200	22	22,100	78	28,300
1992	44,300	18	197,200	82	241,500	12,700	22	44,800	78	57,500
1993	28,700	21	108,000	79	136,700	4,400	12	31,800	88	36,200
1994	21,200	18	99,800	82	121,000	5,200	19	22,300	81	27,500
1995	26,000	14	154,000	86	180,000	1,900	14	11,300	86	13,200
1996	25,700	15	148,700	85	174,400	3,900	21	14,900	79	18,800
1997	30,900	15	177,300	85	208,200	3,900	11	32,800	89	36,700
1998	34,800	26	99,900	74	134,700	3,400	9	36,900	91	40,300
1999	56,600	32	119,900	68	176,500	3,700	17	18,400	83	22,100
2000	63,600	29	153,100	71	216,700	8,400	21	32,500	79	40,900
<b>2001 Proj.</b>	<b>147,500</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>374,200</b>	<b>71</b>	<b>521,700</b>	<b>8,900</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>27,100</b>	<b>75</b>	<b>36,000</b>

- Based on counts through August 15 the TAC upgraded the Group A index forecast to 374,200 hatchery fish, 147,500 wild fish, and 521,700 total returns. TAC did not update the preseason forecast for Group B index summer steelhead.
- A return of 586,600 summer steelhead to the Columbia River would represent the largest return on record (since 1938).

### ***Fall Chinook***

- Fall chinook typically enter the Columbia River in mid-August with abundance at Bonneville Dam peaking during the first half of September.
- Fall chinook counting at Bonneville Dam begins on August 1 and typically 3-6% of the fall chinook run passes Bonneville Dam prior to August 16.
- Through August 15 an estimated 9,930 adult fall chinook have passed Bonneville Dam as compared to the recent five-year average of 7,305 adults.
- Observation of fall chinook at Bonneville Dam to determine tule/bright stock separation began on August 15.

## **Fishery Updates**

### ***Buoy 10 Sport Fishery***

- The Buoy 10 fishery (from the mouth upstream to the Tongue Point/Rocky Point line) opened August 1 for chinook, adipose fin-clipped coho, and adipose fin-clipped steelhead. Daily salmon/steelhead bag limit is two fish of which only one may be a chinook through August 15 and three fish of which only one may be a chinook thereafter.
- Coho fishing started off very strong with catch rates of more than one coho per rod during the first two open days.
- Since August 2 catch rates have averaged half a coho per rod.
- Catch rates during the first half of August typically range between 0.1 and 0.5 coho per rod.
- As is typical chinook fishing began slowly with catch rates of less than 0.10 chinook per rod through the first 9 days of August. Chinook fishing has improved recently with catch rates of 0.1-0.2 chinook per rod observed during the last 6 days.

### ***Mainstem and Tributary Sport Fisheries***

- During May 16-July 31, 2001 lower Columbia River steelhead anglers made 37,600 angler trips and caught 11,200 steelhead (6,400 hatchery fish kept and 4,800 wild fish released).
- The handle of 4,200 wild steelhead during July was the highest since the fishery became selective in 1984. The total for kept hatchery fish of 4,400 was the highest since 1986.
- The mainstem Columbia River (from the Tongue Point/Rocky Point line upstream to Hwy 395 Bridge at Pasco) opened for chinook and coho on August 1. Nonadipose fin-clipped coho must be released downstream from John Day Dam. Daily salmon/steelhead bag limit is two fish per day.
- During August 1-12, ODFW and WDFW personnel checked 5,100 salmon anglers on the lower Columbia with catches of 46 fall chinook adults, 627 hatchery steelhead kept, and 299 wild steelhead released.
- The total adult chinook catch through August 12 is estimated to be less than 200 fish.
- No increase in CPUE for fall chinook has been observed this week, but tides are becoming more favorable as the week progresses.
- Oregon tributaries generally opened August 1 for chinook as per permanent regulations. The lower Clackamas and Sandy rivers are scheduled to be open for adipose fin-clipped coho from September 1-October 31. In several other Oregon tributaries below Bonneville Dam coho angling is allowed, but only adipose fin-clipped coho may be kept.
- Most Washington tributaries opened August 1 for fall chinook and coho.



- The retention of sturgeon in the Columbia River below Bonneville Dam, including Youngs Bay, by boat and bank anglers has been disallowed during the time period of August 1-September 30.

<b><i>Sturgeon Catch and Effort Through July in the Lower Columbia River Sport Fishery, 1994-2001</i></b>				
<b><u>Year</u></b>	<b><u>Angler Trips</u></b>	<b><u>Legals Kept</u></b>	<b><u>CPUE Kept/Trip</u></b>	
2001	147,900	33,900	0.229	One fish bag all year, retention prohibited entire river during August and September.
2000	145,500	28,200	0.194	One fish bag all year, retention prohibited in estuary during April.
1999	137,700	28,500	0.207	One fish bag all year.
1998	151,000	31,200	0.207	One fish bag all year.
1997	145,600	27,300	0.187	One fish bag all year.
1996	135,200	32,100	0.237	Two fish bag (1 & 1 rule) prior to 4/1/96 and one fish bag thereafter.
1995	166,600	39,400	0.237	Two fish bag (1 & 1 rule) all year, fishery closed early.
1994	114,300	17,900	0.157	Two fish bag (1 & 1 rule) all year.

- Angler trips during May and June were at record high levels while effort during March and April was only 75% of the recent five-year average.
- Effort during July was similar to the recent five-year average.
- Catch in the lower Columbia sport fishery during May and June was excellent with catches of 5,400 white surgeon in May and 11,700 white sturgeon in June.
- Fishing in July remained strong with a catch of 10,000 white surgeon for the month.

<b>Sturgeon Catch to Date and Guidelines for 2001</b>			
	Catch to Date	Guideline	Comments
<b>Lower Columbia</b>			
<b>Non-Indian</b>			
Commercial	8,373	9,100	Catch estimate through August 8, 700 remain on guideline.
Sport	33,938	39,500	Catch estimate through July. 5,600 remain on guideline.
<b>Zone 6</b>			
<b>Treaty Indian Commercial</b>			
Bonneville	897	1,300	Catch estimate through August 12. Setline season to close August 18.
The Dalles	1,258	1,100	Closed March 14.
John Day	407	1,160	Catch estimate through August 12. Setline season to close August 18.
Commercial Total	2,503	3,560	
Treaty Indian Subsistence	225	300	
Total Treaty Indian	2,728	3,580	
<b>Non-Indian Sport</b>			
Bonneville	1,411	1,520	Closed August 13. Catch estimate through July 31.
The Dalles	663	700	Closed April 9.
John Day	179	560	Catch estimate through July 31.
Total Non-Indian	2,253	2,780	

### **August Non-Indian Commercial Fisheries**

- Early August fisheries included two nighttime fishing periods; a target sturgeon fishery from 7 pm August 5 to 7 am August 6 (12 hours) below the Longview Bridge and a target salmon fishery from 10 pm August 8 to 6 am August 9 (8 hours) in Zone 1. Allowable sales included salmon and sturgeon during the first fishing period and salmon only during the second fishing period.
- Preseason catch estimates for these two fisheries included 3,700 chinook (320 URB's), 1,500-3,000 white sturgeon and 500-1,500 green sturgeon. Actual landings totaled 2,100 chinook (250 URB's), 4,700 white sturgeon and 320 green sturgeon.
- Effort during the first fishing period was very high with 175 boats participating while effort during the second fishing period dropped off significantly with less than 50 boats participating.

<b>Non-Indian Mainstem Commercial Fishery Update</b>			
Stock	Aug 5-6	Aug 8-9	Total
URB	--	--	250
BPH	--	--	610
MCB	--	--	45
LRH	--	--	770
LRW	--	--	160
SAB	--	--	190
Other	--	--	45
<b>Total Chinook</b>	<b>1,207</b>	<b>863</b>	<b>2,070</b>
Coho	201	91	292
Chum	0	0	0
W. Sturgeon	4,741	0	4,741
G. Sturgeon	320	0	320

- Two 30-hour fishing periods in Youngs Bay were adopted for noon Monday August 6 to 6 pm Tuesday August 7 and noon Monday August 13 to 6 pm Tuesday August 14 to harvest net-pen produced SAB fall chinook. Landings to date have totaled 540 chinook, 4 coho, 1 chum, and 13 white sturgeon.
- Based on LV fin clips an estimated 94% (82 fish sampled) of the fall chinook landed in Youngs Bay to date have been SAB stock.

### ***Non-Indian Commercial White Sturgeon Allocation***

- Final in-season catch estimates, based on buyer calls, estimated a catch of 10,600 white sturgeon in 2000. Actual landings totaled 10,900 white sturgeon.
- White sturgeon landings in 2001 have exceeded recent years catch totals in all fisheries except Select Area fisheries.

<b><i>Non-Indian Commercial White Sturgeon Catch Update, 2000-2001</i></b>		
Season	2000	2001
Winter Mainstem	2,261	3,166
Winter/Spring/Summer Select Area	535	466
Early August	2,489	4,741
August 2S	301	--
Fall Select Area	157	13
Late Fall Mainstem	5,127	--
<b><i>Total to Date</i></b>	<b>10,870</b>	<b>8,386</b>

- Based on landings to date an estimated 700 white sturgeon remain on the 9,100 fish catch limit.
- During fall mainstem fisheries in 2000 white sturgeon landings totaled 300 during August Area 2S fisheries, 200 during September Area 2S fisheries, 600 during target coho fisheries, and 4,100 during October sturgeon/ coho fisheries.

## **Fishery Proposals**

### ***Non-Indian Commercial Salmon Fishery***

- Preseason catch estimates for mid to late August Area 2S fisheries included 7,700 chinook of which 2,700 were expected to be URB's.
- Preseason catch estimates for all non-Indian commercial fisheries occurring during the month of August totaled 11,400 chinook, including 3,000 URB's.
- Catches during August seasons to date have been estimated to total 2,070 chinook of which 250 were URB's.

<b><i>Recommendation</i></b>	
The Joint Staff recommends adoption of the following commercial salmon fishing periods:	
Season:	8 PM Tuesday August 21 to 6 AM Wednesday August 22 (10 hours). 8 PM Wednesday August 22 to 6 AM Thursday August 23 (10 hours). 8 PM Thursday August 23 to 6 AM Friday August 24 (10 hours).
Area:	I-205 Bridge upstream to Beacon Rock.
Sanctuaries:	Sandy and Washougal River sanctuaries.
Gear:	9" minimum and 9-3/4" maximum mesh size restrictions.
Allowable Sales:	Sturgeon and salmon.
Expected Catch:	5,000 – 8,000 chinook 200-400 white sturgeon

- ✓ Proposed fishery is consistent with 2001 Management Agreement and North of Falcon negotiations.
- ✓ Fishery checkpoints would be scheduled for Wednesday August 22 and Thursday August 23 to allow for in-season fishery modifications as needed.
- ✓ Nighttime fishing will reduce congestion and minimize conflicts with recreational anglers.
- ✓ Expansion to areas downstream to the I-205 Bridge will reduce congestion (same as 2000).
- ✓ Based on past monitoring results (94 drifts) 9-inch minimum mesh has been highly effective at reducing steelhead handle during the August timeframe.

### ***Non-Indian Commercial Sturgeon Allocation***

<b><i>Recommendation</i></b>
The Joint Staff recommends that the retention of sturgeon in non-Indian commercial fisheries occurring downstream of Bonneville Dam, including Select Areas, be disallowed effective Wednesday August 29, 2001.

- ✓ Elimination of sturgeon sales will be required this fall to remain within 9,100 fish catch limit.
- ✓ Elimination of sturgeon sales in late August would provide some buffer in case fish ticket landings exceed in-season landing estimates.
- ✓ Elimination of sturgeon sales in late August will provide some notice time to the commercial industry.
- ✓ Timing of this regulation would allow retention of sturgeon in proposed expanded Area 2S and Youngs Bay fisheries where larger mesh sizes are allowed.
- ✓ Elimination of sturgeon sales would coincide with initiation of coho-directed fisheries which are proposed to include 6-inch maximum mesh size restrictions.

### ***Monofilament Gillnets***

- ODFW and WDFW have announced their intentions to allow the use of monofilament gill nets in non-Indian commercial fisheries, including Select Areas, beginning in the fall of 2001.
- Compact action is required to change regulations that currently prohibit the use of monofilament gill nets, and this action could occur at this hearing.

<b><i>Monofilament Regulation Options</i></b>
Option 1: Allow monofilament gill net effective October 1, 2001.
Option 2: Allow monofilament gill net effective after mid-September consistent with the opening of the late fall season.

- ✓ Option 1 coincides with reduced chinook abundance in the mainstem Columbia River below Bonneville Dam.
- ✓ Option 2 coincides with initiation of coho-directed fisheries in the mainstem Columbia River below Bonneville Dam.



## ***Treaty Indian Fishery Proposals***

- The tribes will propose two commercial gillnet fishery openings that are projected to harvest up to 5,300 chinook and 3,500 steelhead in the first opening and 12,800 chinook and 2,600 steelhead in the second opening.
- Tribal modeling indicates that less than 150 listed Snake River fall chinook would be caught in the first opening and less than 350 in the second opening. The platform fishery is expected to take less than 10 listed Snake River fall chinook in August. These openings will not exceed the total allowable impacts for the tribal fishery.

<b><i>Proposed Commercial Gillnet Fishery</i></b>	
Area:	All of Zone 6
Dates:	6:00 AM Tuesday Aug. 28 to 6:00 PM Saturday Sept. 1 (4½ days) and 6:00 AM Tuesday Sept. 4 to 6:00 PM Saturday Sept. 8 (4½ days)
Restrictions:	No mesh size restrictions. Allowable sales include chinook, coho, steelhead, walleye, and shad. Commercial sales of platform caught fish are allowed during commercial openings. Sturgeon between 4 and 5 feet may be retained for subsistence use. All standard sanctuaries remain in effect including the standard Spring Creek Hatchery sanctuary from ½ mile upstream of the hatchery to 1 ½ miles downstream of the hatchery.

- The first gillnet opening is expected to harvest 85 wild Group B Index steelhead and the second opening is expected to harvest 150. The platform fishery is expected to harvest 60 wild Group B Index steelhead through the end of August. These impacts will be well within the 15% harvest rate allowed in the fall management agreement.
- Additionally, the tribes will propose allowing commercial sales of platform and hook and line caught fish beginning August 20. The tribes do not expect the total harvest (subsistence and commercial) from the platform fishery to exceed 300 fish through the end of August. Because of low flows the tribes do not expect the platform catch to be large. Tribal staff will continue to monitor the platform fishery and adjust fisheries as necessary to not exceed the total allowable impacts.
- The tribes intend to use aerial surveys to measure effort during the gillnet openings. The catch sold to buyers will be sampled for CWT's by state staff.
- After this opening, the tribes may propose additional fisheries dependant on the number of fish left available for harvest.

## **Future Compact Hearing**

- The Joint Staff recommends the next Compact hearing be held at 1 p.m. Friday, September 7, 2001 at the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife, headquarters commission room located at 2501 SW First Avenue, Portland, Oregon.

Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife  
Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife  
August 17, 2001